WHITE printing!

Print4Pay, Sign&Display Print Production and Proofing



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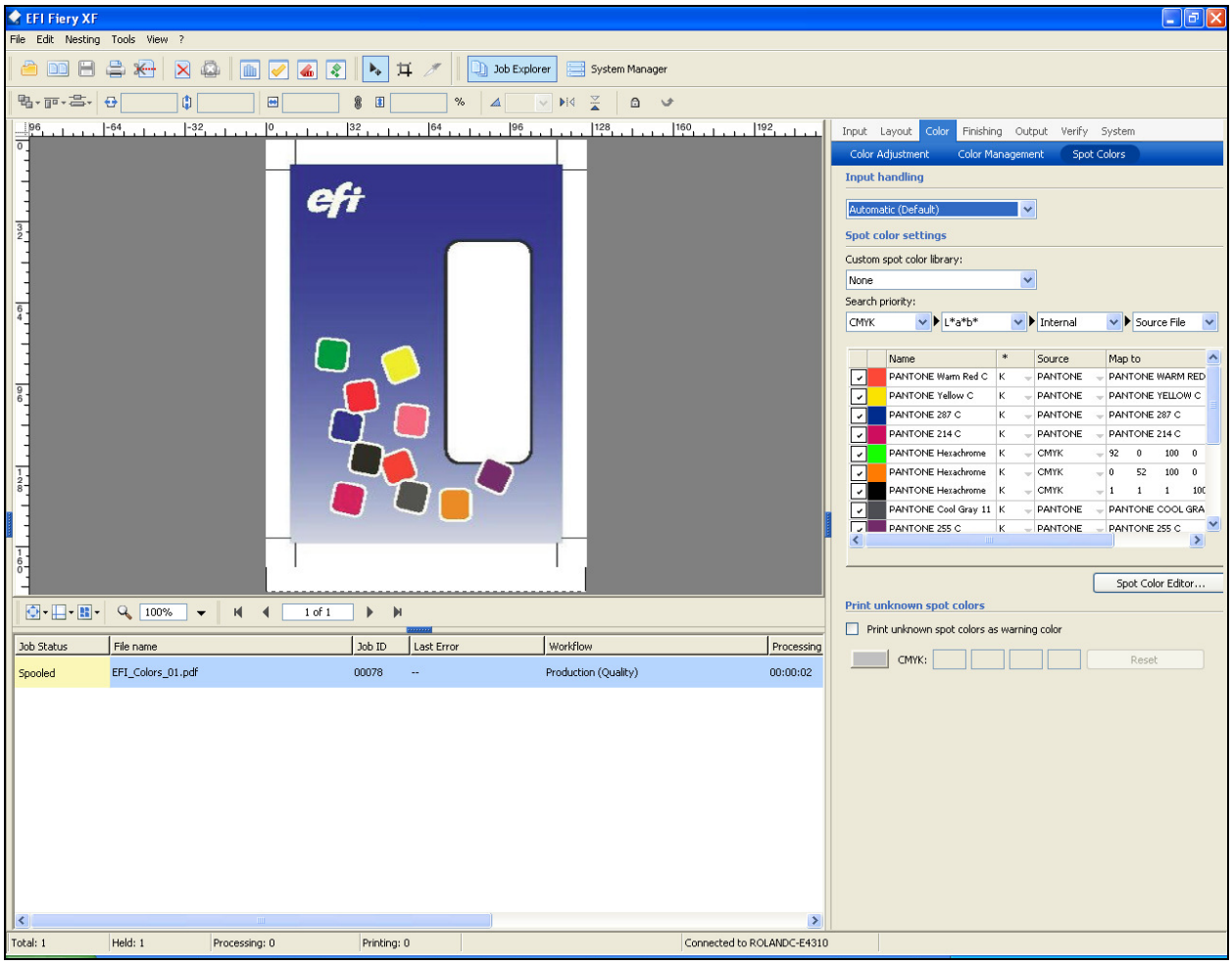
Intention of this document

If you own an inkjet printer with "white" printing capabilities, such as the VUTEk GS-series, VUTEk QS-series, Rastek H650/750, Rastek T600/660, EFI Jetrion 4830, Roland VersaUV LEC 300/330, Mimaki TPC-1000 or any other printer supported by EFI Fiery XF, then you will want to make sure that you can address the white channel of your printer in the most flexible way.

EFI Fiery XF provides two main workflows to cover your basic white printing needs – one "manual" and one "automatic".

Preparing XF for your white channel data in a "manual" way:

Let's say you just imported your job into the EFI Fiery XF's Job Explorer. The job, just as the below example, includes spot colors:



What you now may want to do is to route any (it could be one or various) of these spot color names to the white channel of your printer. EFI Fiery XF by default expects the white channel data within a job to be named "*WHITE_INK*" with capital letters and an underscore in between. This name cannot be changed.

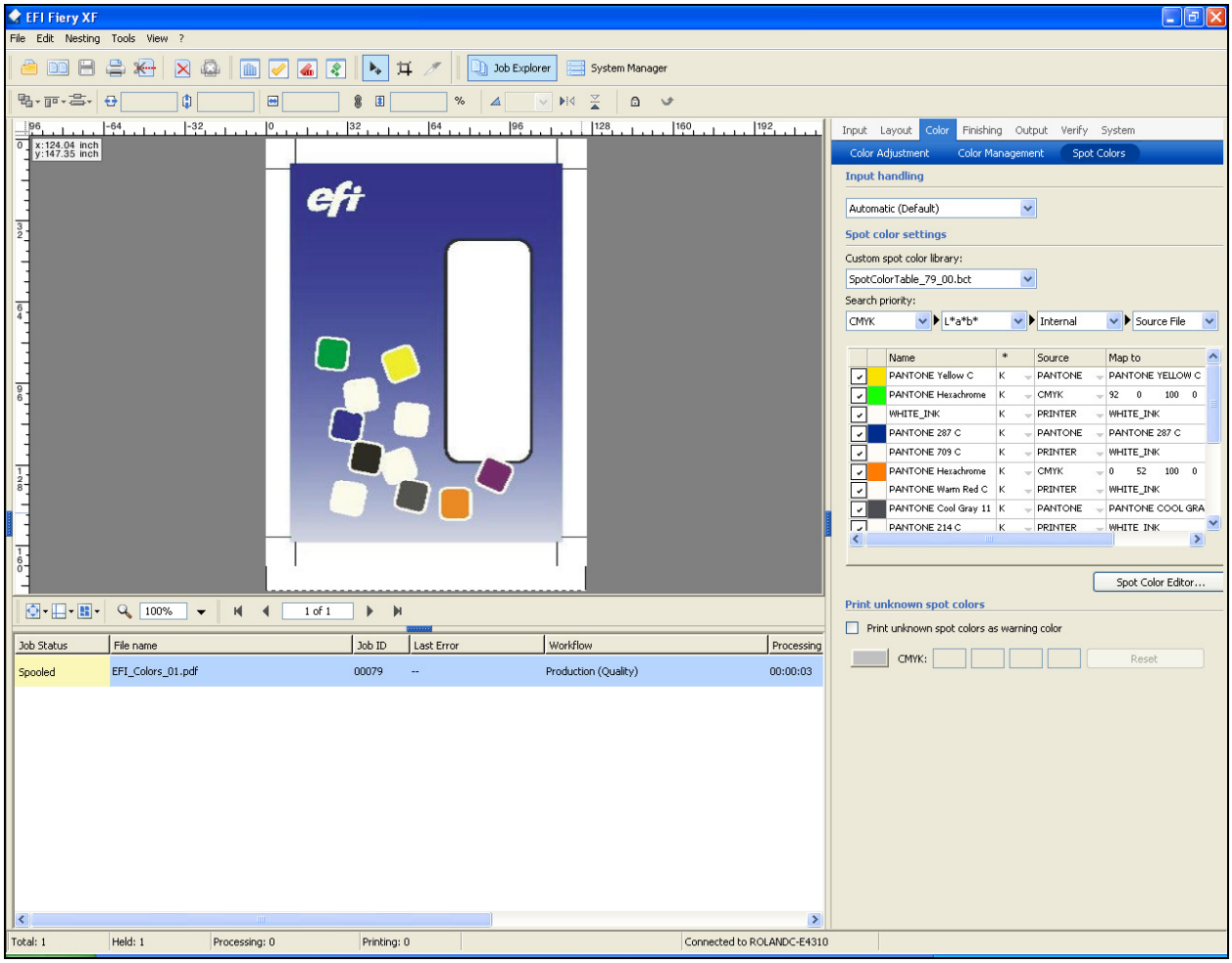
But what if your PrePress assigned another name to the white channel or if you want to route any spot color to this channel? You surely do not want to go back to the DTP application and adjust the name.

Instead, just to go the "Color -> Spot Color" tab and check the spot colors within your job.

Let's just assume we would want to route all the "red" spot colors to our white ink channel.

Click on "*Source*", choose "*PRINTER*", then click on "*Map to*" and choose "*WHITE_INK*".

Click on "*Save*" and check the updated preview:

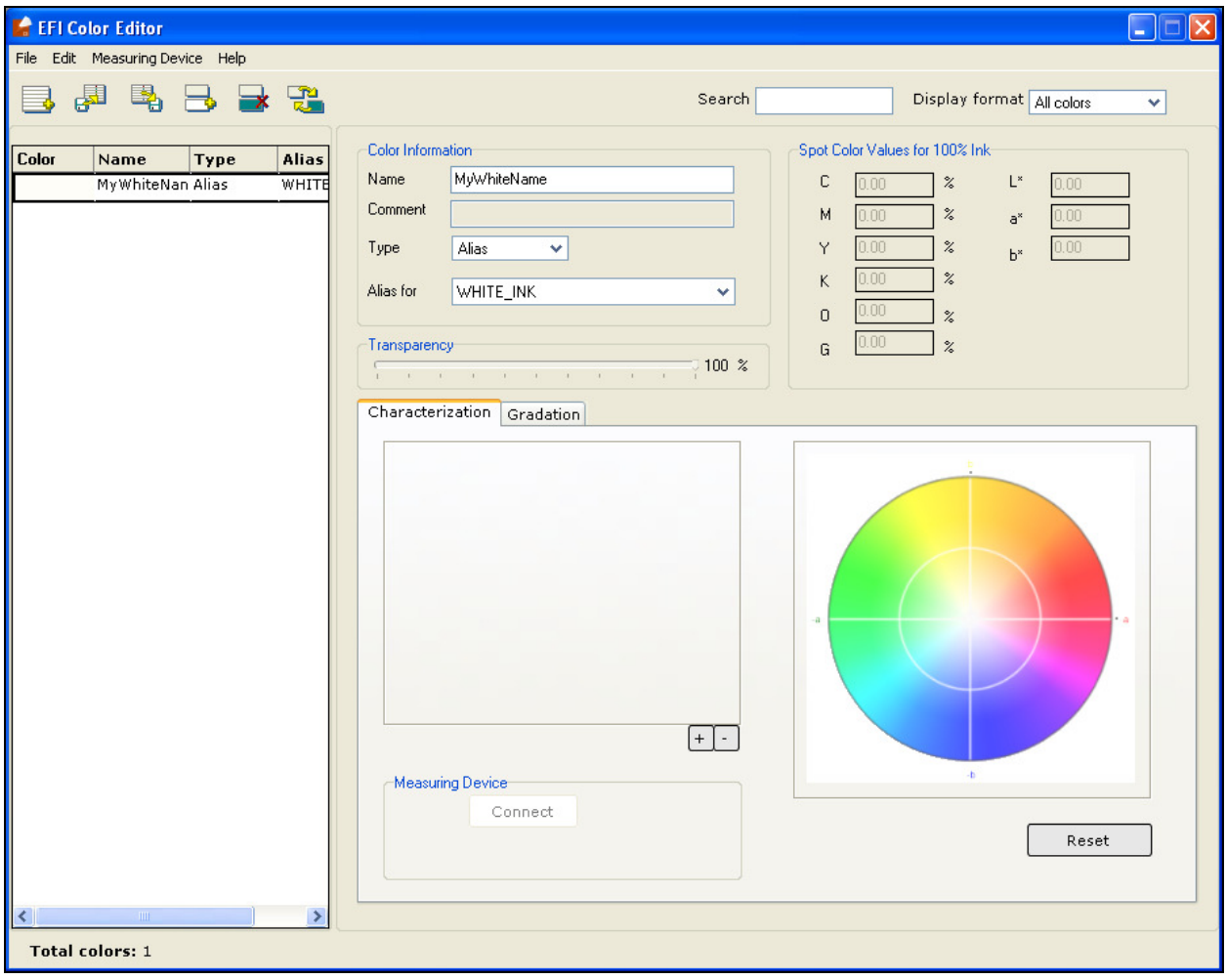


You can see that I just routed four red spot colors to the white ink channel – easily and quickly.

Preparing XF for your white channel data in an "automatic" way:

You probably will not want to adjust each and every job manually. If you already know the standard white channel name your PrePress or your customer is going to use, then you can prepare EFI Fiery XF for these names automatically.

Open up Color Editor and create as many Alias as you need. Set Color Editor up like this:



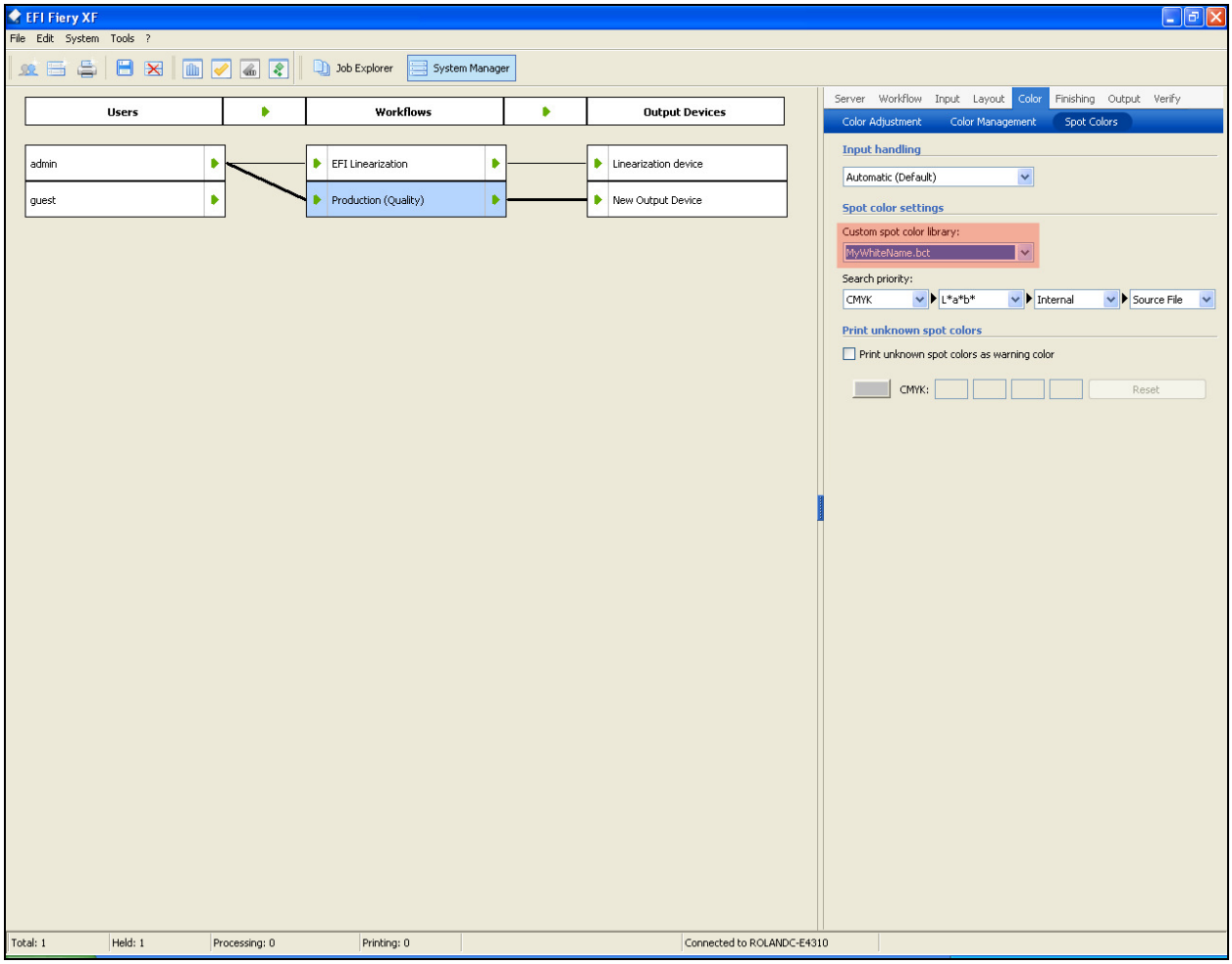
Type in any name for the white spot color channel that you expect – for instance "*MyWhiteName*". Then select "*Alias*" as the "*Type*". Finally you need to choose "*WHITE_INK*" as the target for the Alias in the "Alias for" combo box. You can find the "*WHITE_INK*" entry pretty much at the bottom of the long list.
What this will do is it routes your white spot color name (whatever name) to "*WHITE_INK*" which makes the purpose understandable for EFI Fiery XF.

You can repeat this process for other names and they can all be routed to "*WHITE_INK*" within the same BCT file.

Eventually save the spot color definition as a BCT file into the folder "*C:\Documents and Settings\All Users\Application Data\EFI\EFI XF\Server\Profiles\Spotcolor*".

EFI Fiery XF may take roughly 30 seconds to find this file from the client side, do not worry.

Now we can select this freshly created BCT file for any workflow that you want to print white jobs with in the System Manager:



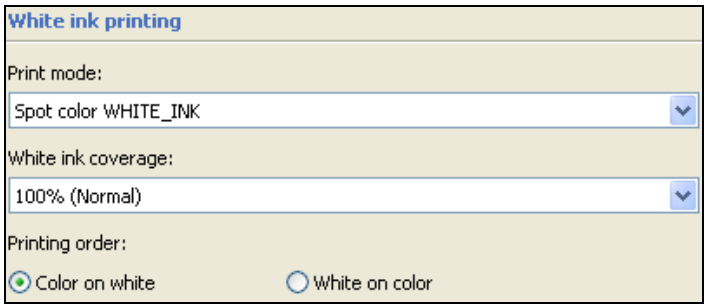
Save the workflow and repeat the BCT-choosing process for as many workflows as you like.

The next time you will load a job into one of these workflows, the white spot color channel will automatically be routed to "*WHITE_INK*" without any user interaction and the job will be correctly processed and printed.

Now that white is assigned, how can I control it?

We just defined how to prepare EFI Fiery XF for your white printing. Since that is done, we now need to look into the various options to control your white ink within XF.

Most white ink printers supported by EFI Fiery XF provide additional control over the white inks. Just go to "*Output Device -> Special*" to review the settings. If you do not find these settings for your printer, then external applications (such as the VUTEk Print Station) are used to control white instead.



Print Mode

You may select up to four "*Print Modes*":

- Spot color WHITE_INK
- Inked_Image
- Bounding box
- Off

"*Spot color WHITE_INK*" is the default mode. EFI Fiery XF will send the image data in the "*WHITE_INK*" channel, or any channel that has been assigned to "*WHITE_INK*" to the printer.

"*Inked_Image*" automatically creates a white channel and white image data for you and sends it to the printer. EFI Fiery XF is analyzing the image data within your job and any image element that is not CMYK 0 0 0 0 (media white) will receive data in the white channel at the same position. In other words – if you print a job that consists of a tree on a white background, then EFI Fiery XF will generate white on top or below the tree, but not anywhere else. You do not have to go back into your DTP application to generate this layer manually, which is a great help to speed up the production process. Additionally, if your job already includes a white channel with white image data and you select "*Inked image*" instead of "*Spot color WHITE_INK*", then EFI Fiery XF will combine the white image from the white channel within the job and the generated white image data from "*Inked image*".
"*Bounding box*" creates a white channel and white image data for you and fills the complete bounding box with white.

White ink coverage

"*White ink coverage*" allows you to define the ink coverag of your white channel. By default this will be 100% but you can decide to print the white data that you may have generated with "Inked image" or "Bounding box" with less than 100% white ink coverage.

In some cases you may even apply more than 100% ink coverage for white. Some printers have predefined media settings that limit white to a certain amount. By e.g. selecting 125% white ink coverage you would tell EFI Fiery XF to use 25% more ink that originally targeted by the printer manufacturer for the selected media type. We do not recommend to use more than 100% white ink coverage in general though.

Printing order

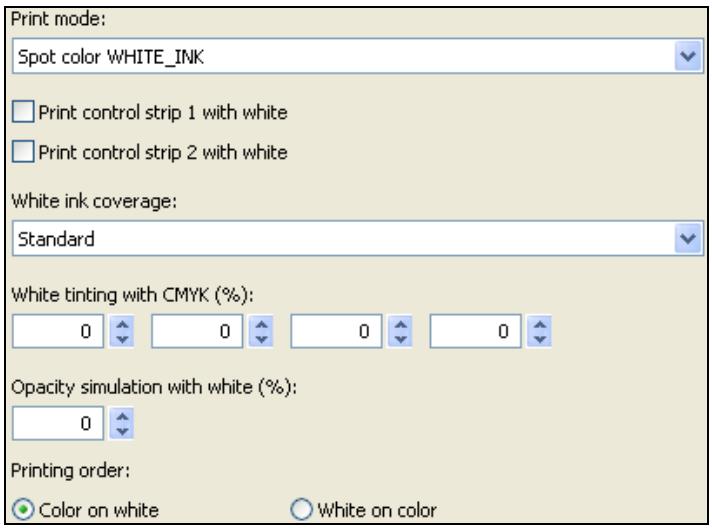
The "*Printing order*" setting allows you to define whether the printer should print "White on Color" or "Color on White".

"*White on Color*" is typically used in backlit workflows where you view the job through a transparent media and want to strengthen the gamut of the job by placing white in the background.

"*Color on White*" is typically used to extend the gamut on opaque media where you look on the job from top with the media and the white in the background.

Epson Stylus Pro WT7900 special settings

EFI Fiery XF does provide additional printer-specific settings for the Epson Stylus Pro WT7900:



"White tinting with CMYK (%)" allows you to apply a "color cast" to your white channel. This can be useful if you want to match a specific white of a reference, which might have a slight yellow or blue cast to it. Just add some Cyan or Yellow or any other primary color to your white.

"*Opacity simulation white white (%)*" allows you to match your print to a specific reference. Sometimes your transparent media may be less opaque than your reference. If you want to adjust this and increase the opaqueness of your media, then you may add small percentages of white over to simulate a media with higher opaqueness.